Nominations sought for 2022 Governor's Award for Quality Care

DES MOINES — Today, the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) announced that it is seeking nominations for the 2022 Governor's Award for Quality Care in Health Care Facilities. The Governor's Award recognizes Iowa health care facilities that offer unique or innovative activities to enhance the quality of care or quality of life for their residents.

Nominations are open to all health care facilities licensed under Iowa Code Chapter 135C, which include nursing facilities, residential care facilities, and intermediate care facilities, including those facilities specializing in the care of persons with mental illness or intellectual disabilities. (Facilities not eligible for nomination are assisted living programs, elder group homes, or hospital-based nursing facilities as these facilities are not licensed under the lowa Code chapter establishing the award program.)

In 2021, Accura HealthCare of Stanton and Lake Mills Care Center were selected to receive the award. Since the first awards were presented in 2001, a total of 60 awards have been presented to 52 individual facilities.

Residents and family members may nominate an lowa-licensed long-term care facility for the award. Facilities may not nominate themselves for this recognition. To be considered for a 2022 Governor's Award, nominations must be postmarked by March 1, 2022. Nomination forms may be <u>downloaded</u> <u>from the DIA website</u> or obtained by calling the DIA Health Facilities Division at 515.242.5022. Nominations will also be accepted via the department's <u>online nomination form</u>.

All nominations must list the reason the facility should be considered, such as any unique services provided by the facility to its residents, and any activities undertaken by the facility to enhance the quality of care or quality of life for its residents. A facility's history of compliance and whether it accepts residents for whom costs are paid by the Medicaid program are also factors used in the determination of eligibility for a Governor's Award. Upon receipt by DIA, the nominations will be evaluated and a list of finalists prepared. Under lowa law, no more than two facilities from each congressional district may be selected for a Governor's Award.

Date

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